



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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11
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 SCS-03 AID-20 CCO-00 FBO-01 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NIC-01 NSC-10 M-03 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-10 PC-04 DODE-00

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSR-01 /158 W
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O 180935Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4225

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AF

SUBJ: AFGHAN COUP: SITREP 5

1. MIDMORNING JULY 18 SITUATION KABUL REMAINS CALM. TRAFFIC SOMEWHAT LIGHTER THAN NORMAL. ADDITIONAL TROOPS AND ARMOR (HAVING BEEN BROUGHT IN DURING NIGHT) POSTED AT MAIN INTERSECTIONS. SCHOOLS REOPENED. NO CURFEW IMPOSED EVENING JULY 17, BUT DE FACTO MARTIAL LAW PREVAILS. CALM OF EARLY MORNING JULY 18 SHATTERED BY LOW FLYOVERS TWO MIG TYPE AIRCRAFT, APPARENTLY NOTHING MORE THAN PATRIOTIC GESTURE OR REMINDER MILITARY CONTROL.

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2. RADIO AFGHANISTAN BROADCAST COMMUNIQUE EVENING JULY 17 URGING RETURN TO NORMALCY THROUGHOUT COUNTRY, COUNSELLING CALM, AND ASKING WORKERS AND STUDENTS TO RETURN TO JOBS AND CLASSROOMS. BROADCAST REPEATED THROUGHOUT EVENING THAT ENTIRE COUNTRY NOW UNDER DIRECTION OF "YOUNG ARMY OF AFGHANISTAN". NO RPT NO FURTHER BROADCASTS FROM SARDAR DAUD AND NO FURTHER OFFICIAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON MAKEUP OF NEW REGIME. RADIO AFGHANISTAN WENT OFF AIR APPROXIMATELY 0900 LOCAL JULY 18 BUT THIS APPARENTLY NORMAL MORNING SHUTDOWN FROM 0900-1230.

3. ALL AMERICAN OFFICIAL COMMUNITY AND TOURISTS IN KABUL APPARENTLY SAFE AND WELL. SOME TOURISTS APPEAR ANXIOUS TO LEAVE COUNTRY ASAP, BUT WILL HAVE TO AWAIT REOPENING OF OUT-BOUND LAND AND AIR ROUTES WHICH REMAIN CLOSED. COMMERCIAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS FOR LIMITED OUTGOING MESSAGES WERE TO REOPEN AT 0900 LOCAL THIS MORNING, BUT WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION THAT THEY HAVE GONE INTO OPERATION. LOCAL TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATIONS REMAIN INOPERATIVE. THERE IS RUMOR THAT THE MAIN COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY IN KABUL WAS DISABLED SHORTLY AFTER COUP BEGAN.

4. RUMORS ABOUND OF PERSONAGES INVOLVED IN COUP AND OF OTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN EXECUTED. ONE REPORT NAMES. IN ADDITION TO MILITARY MENTIONED, FORMER MININT NEHMATULLAH PAZHWAQ, FORMER PM MAINWANDWAL, AND FORMER MINCOMM NASRATULLAH MALIKYAR AS SUPPORTERS OF COUP. ANOTHER PURPORTEDLY EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT CLAIMS THY LTGEN GHULAM MOHAMMAD SALAH, COMMANDER OF ABDUL WALI'S ELITE GUARD, WAS EXECUTED AT DAHMZANG. OTHER NAMES THAT HAVE BEEN RUMORED AS COUP SUPPORTERS INCLUDE DR MOHAMMAD HASSAN SHARQ, FORMER PRIVATE SECRETARY TO SARDAR DAUD, GENERAL ABDUL RAZAQ, DEPOSED IN 1970 AS CHIEF STAFF AFGHAN AIR FORCE FOR ALLEGEDLY BEING TOO CLOSE TO DAUD, GENERAL SAYED HASSAN, FORMER ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF FROM 1966-63, MAJGEN MOHAMMAD KARIM MOSTAGHNI, FORMER DAUD PROTEGE AND CG 17TH INF DIVISION (HERAT), AND GENERAL KHAN MOHAMMAD KHAN (NOT RECENT MINDEF), FORMER ARMY COMMANDER, GOVERNOR AND AMBASSADOR. IN ABSENCE INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION OR OFFICIAL INFORMATION, EMBASSY CANNOT CONFIRM THESE ACCOUNTS.

4. SEVERAL REPORTS CONFIRM THAT MILITARY UNITS IN KANDAHAR

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